In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A ~~compound~~ pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group shown in Table 1, which specifically alters the binding activity of SR-BI, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier~~, in an effective amount to treat a human or animal in need thereof, obtained by screening a library of compounds for alteration of SR-B1 binding activity or expression.~~

2. (currently amended) The ~~compound~~ composition of claim 1 ~~selected from the group shown in Table I~~ in a dosage formulation comprising an amount effective to treat a human or animal in need thereof.

3. (currently amended) The ~~compound~~ composition of claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of BLT-1 (MIT 9952-53), BLT-2 (MIT 9952-61), BLT-3 (MIT 9952-19), BLT-4 (MIT 9952-29), and BLT-5 (MIT 9952-6).

4. (currently amended) A method for altering cholesterol transport into or out of cells comprising inhibiting expression or activity of SR-BI comprising administering to an animal or human in need thereof ~~the composition of claim 1~~ a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group shown in Table 1, which specifically alters the binding activity of SR-BI, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the composition of claim 1 enhances HDL binding by increasing SR-BI's binding affinity for HDL.

6. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the inhibited SR-BI binding activity blocks SR-BI-mediated lipid transport.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the inhibited SR-BI binding activity blocks SR-BI-mediated selective lipid uptake.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the lipid is HDL cholesteryl ether.

9. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the inhibited SR-BI binding activity blocks efflux of cellular cholesterol to HDL.

10. (currently amended) A method of identifying a compound which alters SR-BI binding activity or expression comprising screening a library of small molecule compounds using a high throughput screening assay determining alteration of HDL binding by SR-BI, SR-BI-mediated lipid transport or expression of SR-BI.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the SR-BI expression is determined by Northern blot analysis.

12. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the library is a chemical library.

13. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the SR-BI binding activity is inhibited.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the inhibited SR-BI binding activity blocks SR-BI-mediated lipid transport.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the inhibited SR-BI binding activity blocks SR-BI-mediated selective lipid uptake.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the lipid is HDL cholesteryl ether.

17. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the inhibited SR-BI binding activity blocks efflux of cellular cholesterol to HDL.